



EPA proposes to amend the clean-up plan for the F. O'Connor Superfund Site Augusta, Maine

The Proposed Change

EPA is proposing to amend the groundwater component of the 1989 clean-up plan. This revision follows the completion of soil cleanup and use of pumps to remove oil and contaminated groundwater. After careful study of the site conditions, EPA is proposing to:

- ! Establish land use restrictions to prevent exposure to the contaminated groundwater.**
- ! Continue to remove oil from the groundwater as effectively as possible.**
- ! Continue to monitor the groundwater beneath the site to demonstrate that the contamination is not expanding.**
- ! Continue to monitor sediment and fish in Riggs Brook to track changes in contaminant levels.**
- ! Evaluate the cleanup approach to confirm that it is protective of human health and the environment.**

How would the clean up affect the Augusta community?

Find out about the proposed cleanup plan presented in this newsletter and how it compares with the previous clean-up plan for the site at an informational public meeting on June 25, 2002. At the meeting, EPA will respond to your questions and concerns about the proposed cleanup and how it may affect you. For further

The documents providing the basis for this proposed change are also available at the Lithgow Public Library.

What do you think?

EPA is accepting public comment on this proposal from June 19 through July 19, 2002. You do not have to be a technical expert to comment; if you have a concern or preference regarding EPA's proposed cleanup plan, then EPA wants to hear from you before making a final decision on how to protect your community. To provide formal comments, you may:

Offer oral comments during the comment portion of the public hearing on (see page YY) for details)

Send written comments postmarked no later than July 19, 2002 to:

Terrence Connelly, RPM
U.S. EPA Region I
1 Congress Street
Suite 1100 (HBT)
Boston, MA 02114-2023

E-mail comments by July 19, 2002 to:

connelly.terry@epa.gov

Come to the Public Information Meeting

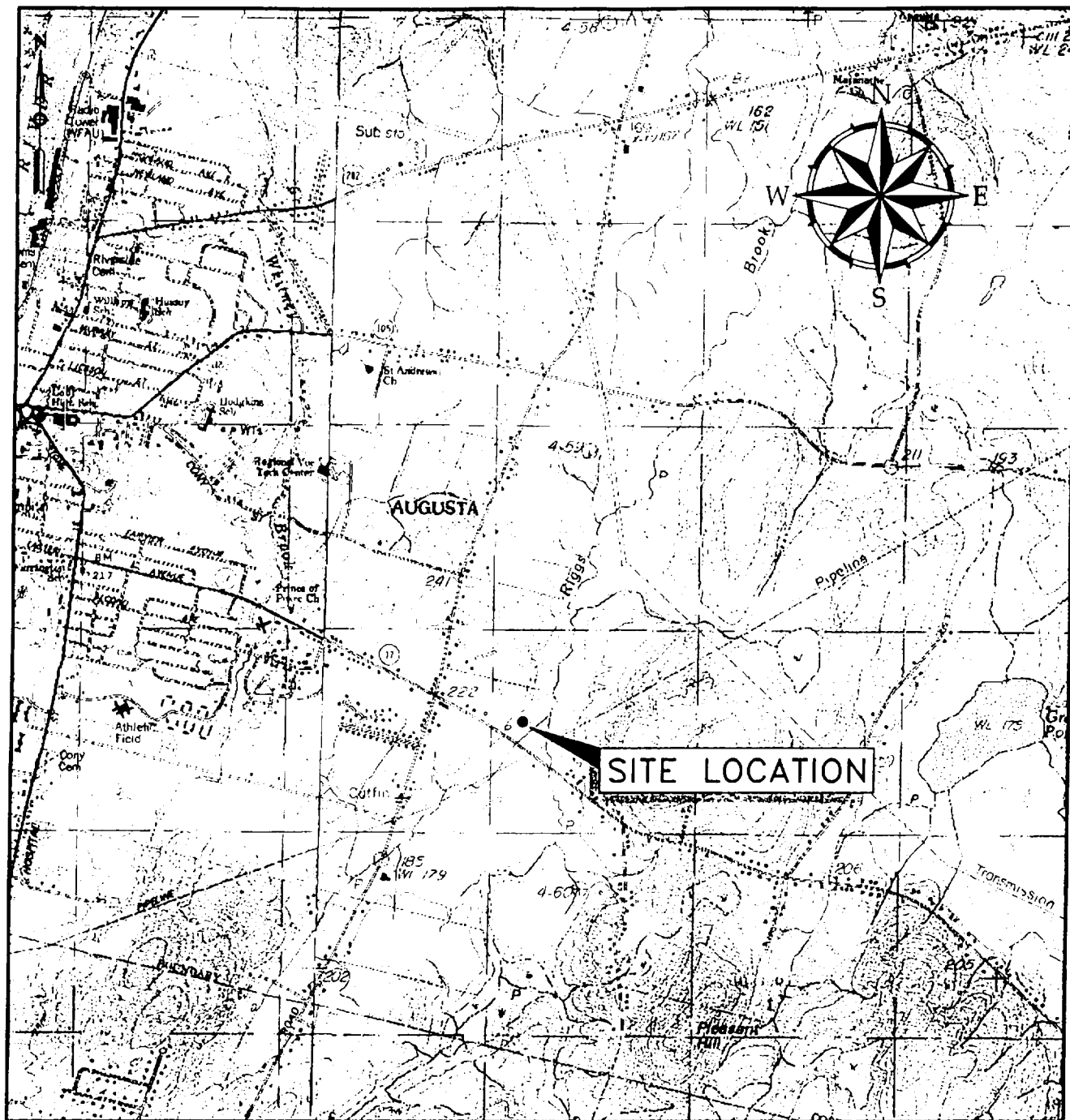
on

**June 25, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.
American Legion Hall
400 Eastern Avenue
Augusta, Maine**

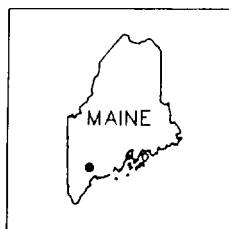
and Public Hearing: Formal Public Comment Session

**July 9, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.
American Legion Hall
400 Eastern Avenue
Augusta, Maine**

information about this meeting, call EPA Project Manager Terry Connelly, toll-free at 1-888-372-7341.



2500 0 2500 5000
SCALE FEET



SOURCE: USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP
7.5 MIN. SERIES, 1988 LAND INFO INTERNATIONAL, LTD.
AUGUSTA, MAINE / TOGUS POND, MAINE

DES.BY: LET DR.BY: JBC CK.BY: LET

CENTRAL MAINE POWER CO.

AUGUSTA, MAINE

**O'CONNOR COMPANY
SUPERFUND SITE**

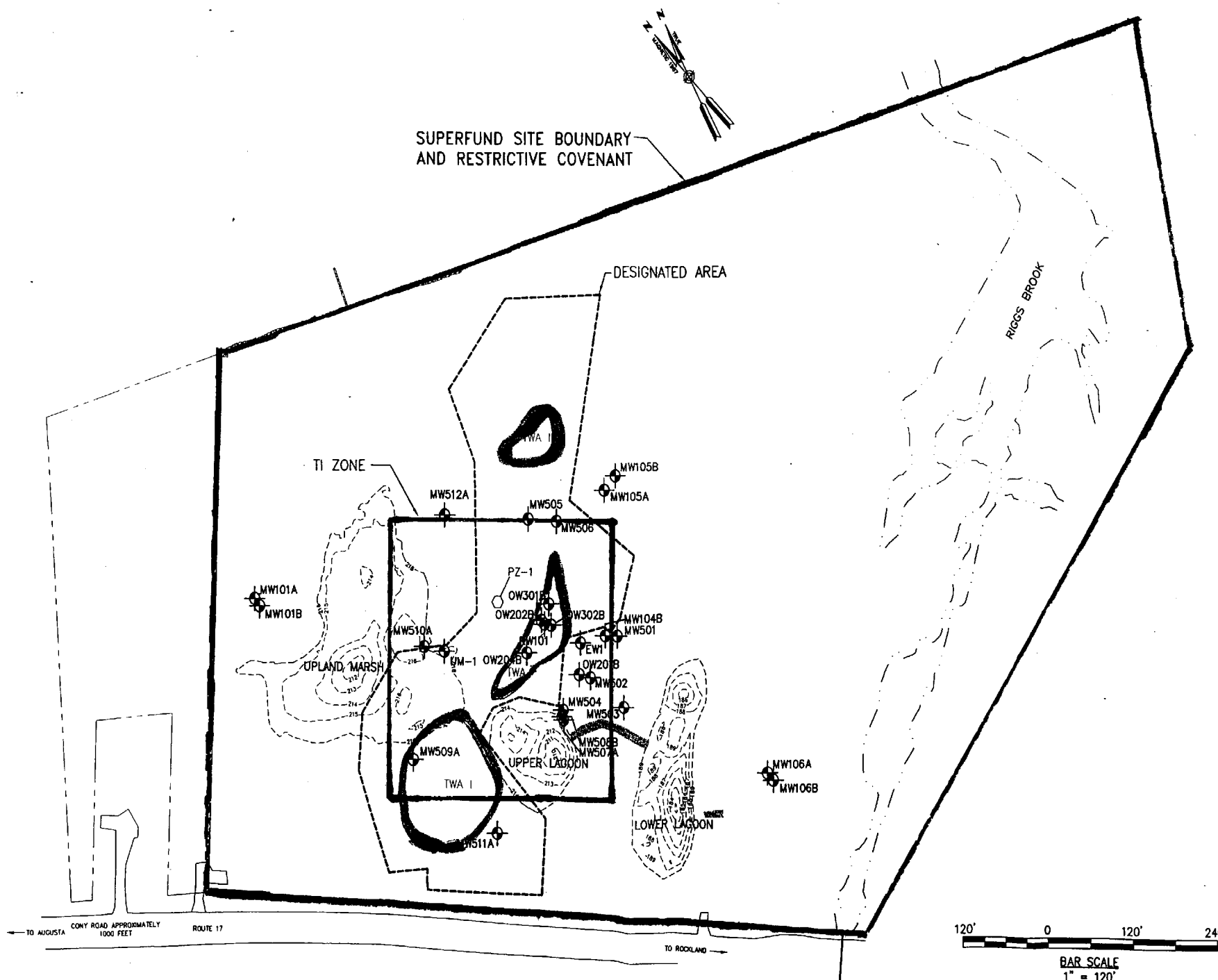
SITE LOCATION MAP

SCALE: NOTED JOB NO.: 205621.04

DATE: APRIL 2002 FIGURE 1 20562104-U001



WOODARD & CURRAN
Engineering • Science • Operations



SUPERFUND SITE BOUNDARY AND RESTRICTIVE COVENANT

CENTRAL MAINE POWER
AUGUSTA, MAINE

O'CONNOR COMPANY
SUPERFUND SITE

WOODARD & CURRAN
Engineering · Science · Operations
PORTLAND, MAINE
1-800-426-4262

DESIGNED BY: LEM
DRAWN BY: JBC
CHECKED BY: LEM
FILE: 2056210-U002

JOB NO: 205621.03
DATE: JUNE, 2002
SCALE: 1" = 120'

FIGURE 2



A Closer Look at EPA's Proposed Amendment to the Clean-up Plan...

Oil containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and solvents has entered the soils and bedrock at the site (Figure 1) as result of transformer salvage work done on the property from the early 1950s through the late 1970s. With the removal of 20,000 tons of contaminated soil in 1997, the risks associated with dermal contact with the PCBs and inhalation of vapors from the PCBs have been addressed. However, residual oil remains in the clay soils and bedrock fractures.

Because of these conditions, EPA has determined that it is technically impracticable to restore the contaminated groundwater beneath a portion of O'Connor site within a reasonable period of time. EPA anticipates that it will be many decades, possibly more than a couple hundred years, before the groundwater returns to drinking water quality.

Land use restrictions (referred to as institutional controls) will prevent the use of groundwater until natural processes return the aquifer to drinking water quality at some point in the future. EPA is proposing to remove as much oil as possible through pumping, and then to rely on natural processes to reduce the remaining oil and dissolved contaminants in the groundwater to state and federal drinking water standards. Periodic reviews will assess the protectiveness of this cleanup plan and evaluate new technologies which might hasten the restoration of the groundwater.

For the amended cleanup plan, EPA proposes to rely on:

1. institutional controls to prevent exposure to the contaminated groundwater.

In 1994, Central Maine Power Company (CMP) signed a restrictive covenant on a portion of the property which prevents certain activities without written approval from Maine DEP (see Figure 2). The covenant requires CMP to maintain the property to ensure that the remedy remains protective. The covenant runs with the land and is binding on all future owners. EPA will assess with Maine DEP whether this control should be modified or augmented, to ensure that remedy remains protective both in the short-term and in the long-term.

Implementation of an operation and maintenance plan to ensure that the restrictive covenants are being followed and that the site is managed properly.

2. a combination of active and passive removal of the oil and associated PCBs.

A vacuum-enhanced pumping system will be used annually to remove oil from the groundwater.

Placement of absorbent materials in monitoring wells after the conclusion of the pumping to absorb any remaining residual oil.

3. monitoring the groundwater to demonstrate that the contamination is not expanding and that natural processes will continue to decrease the contaminant concentrations.

Implement a long-term groundwater monitoring program to track dissolved PCB and solvents which are volatile organic compounds (VOCs). This program will be a modification of the current monitoring program.

Track the progress of attenuation by monitoring dissolved contaminant levels beyond the area where the oil is present in the groundwater. This monitoring data will be used to verify that the dissolved contaminant concentrations are decreasing.

Include contingencies should the groundwater monitoring indicate the contamination is moving beyond its current limits.

4. monitoring Riggs Brook to demonstrate no unacceptable impact on sediment quality or aquatic or terrestrial organisms.

Continue the monitoring of Riggs Brook sediment and fish as specified in the 1989 Record of Decision (ROD) to track changes in PCB concentrations.

5. evaluating the cleanup approach to confirm that it is protective of human health and the environment.

As long as contamination remains which prevents unrestricted use of the site, the Superfund law requires reviews every five years to evaluate the effectiveness of the implemented cleanup plan.

As part of each five year review, EPA will review the site conditions to determine if the cleanup action remains protective, consider new technologies, and refine the time estimates necessary to reach the groundwater standards.

Why is EPA Changing the Groundwater Remedy?

EPA determined that the original clean-up plan, as discussed below, was ***not going to restore the groundwater to federal and state drinking water standards within a reasonable period of time.***

Computer models are sometimes used at sites with dissolved contaminants to estimate the time period needed to reach drinking water standards. However as there is actually oil in addition to dissolved contaminants in the bedrock at the O'Connor site, it is premature to use computer modeling at this time.

EPA's Original Clean-up Plan

In 1989, EPA issued a remedy for the O'Connor Site in a Record of Decision. The remedy consisted of a comprehensive approach to the contamination. Standing water and sediments in the two lagoons were to be removed, soils contaminated with PCBs, polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and lead were to be excavated and treated, the contaminated groundwater was to be pumped from the soils and bedrock, treated, and then discharged, and sediments and fish in Riggs Brook were to be sampled for ten years.

With this approach, EPA sought to meet five remedial action objectives:

- ! reduce public and environmental risks from direct contact with contaminated soils.
- ! reduce public health risks from inhalations of PCB vapors.
- ! reduce future health risks from ingestion of contaminated groundwater found on the Site.
- ! reduce public health risks from ingestion of PCB-contaminated fish from Riggs Brook.
- ! reduce risks to aquatic and terrestrial wildlife from exposure to contaminated sediments.

The Soil Clean-Up

In September 1991, a Consent Decree between EPA and CMP was approved by the U.S. District Court of Maine. With this Consent Decree, CMP agreed to perform and fund the remedy selected in the 1989 ROD. Additionally, the Consent Decree allowed for an evaluation of the technology selected for the soils. Following this evaluation, EPA and Maine DEP agreed that the original technology for the site soils would not be able to attain the clean-up goals. As a result, in 1994 EPA issued an Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) which modified the soil remedy. Soils containing more than ten parts per million (ppm) PCBs or PAHs or 248 ppm lead would be removed from the site, and soils containing between one to ten ppm PCBs or PAHs would be consolidated into one area on site. This designated area is shown on figure 2.

The soil clean-up began in 1996 with the cleaning, demolition, and off-site disposal of the barn situated along Route 17, and other site preparation activities. The second phase of the soil cleanup was completed in 1997. These activities included the collection and off-site disposal of lagoon water, and the excavation and off-site disposal of nearly 20,000 tons of soil. An additional 3000 to 4000 tons of soils with PCBs or PAHs concentrations between 1 and 10 ppm were placed within the designated area onsite. This area was then covered with a minimum of one foot of clean fill brought in from offsite. The entire site was

then graded. Drainage patterns and the on-site wetlands were restored. An additional 0.4 acre of wetlands was created as replacement for wetlands lost as a result of the clean-up activities.

Laboratory tests of samples collected from the bottom and perimeter of the excavation demonstrated that the excavation had removed all of the contaminated soil to the performance standards set in the 1994 ESD. Combined with institutional controls, which will include the maintenance of the soil cover and monitoring points, the risk to public health from contact with the soil and inhalation of vapors will be addressed.

Groundwater Restoration

The groundwater remedy selected in the 1989 ROD included pumping wells, a treatment system, and a network of monitoring wells to track contamination levels. The intention was to pump and then treat groundwater which contained dissolved PCBs and VOCs and thereby restore the quality of the groundwater.

In 1992, a pump test was performed to measure the amount of water that could be pumped from the bedrock. During the test, free oil (that is, oil that is not dissolved in the groundwater but is present as a separate fluid) up to three and half feet was pulled into three bedrock wells in Transformer Work Area II (TWA II - see figure 2). This was the first time that free oil had been detected in the bedrock. As a result, additional monitoring wells were installed to determine how far the oil extended. No additional oil was discovered and it was concluded that the extent of free oil in the bedrock was limited.

The next stage of the groundwater remedy took place in 1996-97. About 28 gallons of PCB-laden oil were pumped out of the shallow bedrock during this period. The pumping system was shut down when oil was no longer being recovered.

From 1997 to 2001, CMP continued to recover oil from wells by using absorbent materials to remove any oil which accumulated in the wells. A little under seven gallons of PCB-laden oil was recovered during this period from wells in TWA II.

The latest effort at groundwater remediation took place from August to October 2001. Five wells in TWA II were alternately pumped. Just under 20 gallons of oil were recovered. This pumping effort was also shut down when oil was no longer being pulled into the system.

Since the site groundwater has not been returned to drinking water quality, institutional controls will be implemented to prevent its use and thereby address the risk from ingestion of contaminated groundwater.

Current Conditions in Groundwater

Analysis of groundwater samples collected from monitoring wells located within TWA II has found dissolved PCBs and VOCs above their respective standards. In addition, free oil continues to be present in some of these wells. Since the last oil recovery effort, more than a foot of oil has accumulated and been removed from one of the wells.

Analysis of groundwater samples collected from wells located outside of TWA II generally found VOC concentrations near or below the ROD-specified standards and PCBs were generally not detected.

The most recently collected samples in May 2002 indicate that both dissolved VOC and PCB values in the regularly sampled wells have continued to decrease following the soil clean-up.

Current Conditions in Riggs Brook

The ROD selected yearly sediment sampling for ten years for Riggs Brook and its associated nearby wetlands. In addition, fish sampling was to be performed at least once, after five years of sediment sampling.

The yearly sediment sampling began in 1996. The results of this sampling has shown sporadic PCB levels above the ROD performance standard of five ppm. Two small areas were excavated in 1997 to remove sediments with PCBs greater than five ppm. Follow-up sampling around these locations has not shown a widespread area of contamination and has

not suggested that a PCB-contaminated overland pathway connecting the uplands to the wetlands remains. Groundwater with low PCB levels (below the ROD performance standard) flows up from the bedrock to the ground surface and flows into the wetlands. EPA and Maine DEP will continue to monitor the sediment for possible accumulation of PCBs in the sediments from this groundwater pathway.

Sampling of fish tissue has been conducted in 1997 and 2000. All samples were below the target level of two ppm, which was set as protective for both human health and aquatic receptors. A comparison of the data from the two years indicated that the fish PCB levels have decreased.

Considering the results from the 2000 sediment and fish sampling, EPA and Maine DEP agreed that remedial efforts to address the scattered elevated PCB concentrations in the sediment was not warranted at this time. Monitoring will continue to track the PCB levels in the sediments. With the removal of the soils containing ten ppm or more of PCBs from the TWA areas and lagoons, and the continued removal of free oil, EPA anticipates that the PCB levels in Riggs Brook sediments and in fish will continue to decrease or remain below target levels.

Therefore EPA believes that the human health risk from ingestion of PCB-contaminated fish as well as the risk to aquatic and terrestrial wildlife has been addressed at this time. Sediment monitoring will continue so that EPA can assure the public that this remains true.

Technical Impracticability Evaluation for Groundwater

In April 2002, CMP submitted an evaluation of the technical practicability of restoring the groundwater at the O'Connor site to drinking water quality within a reasonable period of time. This evaluation concluded that because of the geology and hydrology at the site, there were no technologies which could accomplish this objective for the following reasons:

R The contamination in soils was successfully addressed by the 1997 excavation and off-site disposal of nearly 20,000 tons of soil. Extensive sampling of the remaining soils at that time demonstrated that the performance standards of ten ppm for PCBs and PAHs were met.

R In 1998, further investigation of the soil found residual oil bound up in the clay, yet sampling results indicated the soil performance standards were met. Over time, this residual oil and the associated PCBs and VOCs slowly seep into the groundwater. In the fall 2001, twenty gallons of oil were recovered by actively pumping from five bedrock and soil wells in TWA II.

R The clay and glacial soils overlying the bedrock restrict the flow of water. This limits the spreading of contamination and also limits the recovery of the PCB-laden oil.

R Earlier attempts to pump and treat groundwater inadvertently drew oil from the soil down into the fractured bedrock. Given the limited recharge of groundwater from the overlying soils, there is relatively little water flowing through these bedrock fractures to flush out the contamination.

R The physical properties of oil cause it to strongly attach to the clay soil and bedrock fractures. These physical constraints will control the rate at which the oil migrates in the soil and bedrock fractures as well as the rate at which the oil dissolves into the groundwater. Ultimately how long it will take to reach drinking water quality is unknown, although it is expected that it will take several decades, possibly even hundreds of years. Once the free oil is removed from the bedrock, then a better restoration estimate can be developed.

Consequently, EPA and Maine DEP concurred that active restoration of the groundwater was technically impracticable.

The Nine Criteria for Choosing a Cleanup

EPA uses nine criteria to balance the pros and cons of cleanup alternatives. The first two are considered threshold criteria and any alternative selected must meet them. Criteria 3 through 7 are balancing criteria. EPA has already evaluated how well each of the clean-up alternatives developed for the O'Connor site meet these criteria. Once comments from the state and the community (criteria 8 & 9) are received, EPA will select a final cleanup plan for the Site.

- (1) Overall protection of human health and the environment:** Will it protect you and the plant and animal life on the site? EPA will not choose a plan that does not meet this basic criterion.
- (2) Compliance with Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements (ARARs):** Does the alternative meet all federal and state environmental statutes, regulations and requirements on-site, or provide a basis to waive them?
- (3) Long-term effectiveness and permanence:** Will the effects of the cleanup plan last or could contamination cause future risk?
- (4) Reduction of toxicity, mobility or volume through treatment:** Does the alternative reduce the harmful effects of the contaminants, the spread of contaminants, and the amount?
- (5) Short-term effectiveness:** How soon will site risks be adequately reduced? Could the cleanup cause short-term hazards to workers, residents or the environment?
- (6) Implementability:** Is the alternative technically and administratively feasible? Are the right goods and services (i.e. treatment machinery; space at an approved disposal facility) available for the plan?
- (7) Cost:** What is the total cost of an alternative over time? EPA must find a plan that gives necessary protection for a reasonable cost.
- (8 & 9) EPA also strongly considers state and community input prior to finalizing the selection of the clean up alternative.**

The Alternatives EPA Considered

When EPA began to consider changing the remedy to address the present site conditions, it examined the existing and potential future risks, evaluated possible alternatives to address these risks, and then compared those alternatives against the nine criteria listed above.

Examining the site conditions, EPA has determined that two potential human health and one ecological risk exposure remain. The human health exposures are future ingestion of contaminated groundwater from the bedrock and ingestion of fish caught in Riggs Brook. The potential future risk to aquatic and terrestrial wildlife is from exposure to contaminated sediments. This future risk is due to the possibility that the contamination levels could increase. Current PCBs levels do not constitute an unacceptable ecological risk.

For this amendment to the clean-up plan, EPA evaluated alternatives to address the risk associated with the groundwater. EPA is not recommending changes for addressing the potential risks associated with Riggs Brook as the 1989 ROD target levels for sediments and fish tissue are generally being met and contaminant levels are expected to decline further because of the soil removal and active recovery of the free oil.

EPA assessed eighteen technologies for their potential ability to restore the groundwater within a reasonable time period and thereby address the human health risks. EPA concluded that none of these technologies would accomplish this objective. Therefore, EPA concluded that land use restrictions on the site are necessary to ensure overall protection of human health - the first threshold criteria. With the waiving of drinking water standards for a limited portion of the site, the second threshold criteria is met. EPA then compared two alternatives, both of which include land use restrictions and a groundwater waiver, against all nine criteria.

Alternative 1: Institutional Controls, Long-Term Monitoring, and Passive Oil Recovery

In this alternative, EPA recognizes that the groundwater beneath a portion of the site (see Figure 2) will not be of drinking water quality for an extended period of time, potentially more than a hundred years for reasons stated above. While the area of Augusta where the site is located has not seen rapid growth during the time the F. O'Connor Company operated or since its closing, the area can reasonably be expected to experience some growth during the time period needed to reach the drinking water quality. Therefore, established and formal controls are needed to prevent use of the groundwater on the site and to prevent the contamination from spreading by stressing the aquifer beneath the site. These controls will remain until the PCB and VOC concentrations attenuate to drinking water quality.

Implementation of an operation and maintenance plan will ensure that the institutional controls are being followed and that the site is managed properly to maintain the protective layer of clean soil above those soils with low levels of PCBs.

Long-term monitoring of the groundwater will allow EPA and Maine DEP to track the residual oil and dissolved PCBs and VOCs within the TI zone and outside of it. This data will allow the agencies to evaluate whether the concentrations are continuing to decrease, whether the contamination is moving beyond its current limit, and whether there is a change in concentrations discharging into Riggs Brook wetlands. In the event that the monitoring data indicate an increase in PCB or VOC levels, EPA and Maine DEP will evaluate possible responses to take.

In addition to these components, Alternative 1 would include passive oil recovery, as described on page 2. Passive oil recovery will continue in the TWA II area wells, periodically using absorbent materials to recover free oil which has drained under normal

conditions into the wells. This would continue until free oil was no longer observed in the wells.

Estimated Period of Operation: 100+ years
Estimated Total Cost: \$622,000*

* Costs were developed for thirty years per EPA guidance; however, as noted previously, EPA expects it will take considerably longer to reach drinking water quality. CMP will be responsible for performing the remedy until that objective is reached.

Alternative 2: Institutional Controls, Long-Term Monitoring, Active and Passive Oil Recovery

This alternative is EPA's proposed alternative. It adds active recovery of residual oil to the components included in Alternative 1. On an annual basis, a vacuum would be applied to wells within TWA II to draw the residual oil and VOCs from the soil and bedrock. EPA is proposing the annual application to coincide with normal low groundwater levels as that has been the time when the amount of oil in the wells has been the greatest. Each application would continue as long as it was practical to remove the oil. Past application suggests that each application would last about four to six weeks. The annual application, from year to year, would continue as long as it was practical. Passive oil recovery would be implemented between the active pumping efforts.

Estimated Period of Operation: 30 years
Estimated Total Cost: \$1,055,000

EPA developed these alternatives based on information contained in the 2002 Technical Impracticability Evaluation submitted by CMP, which in turn followed discussions with EPA and Maine DEP regarding site conditions.

Do the Alternatives Meet the Nine Criteria?

EPA uses the Nine Criteria listed on page YY to evaluate the clean-up alternatives. The table on page YY summarizes how the alternatives compare in meeting the criteria.

The protection of human health and the environment is the most important criterion. The restrictive covenant *protects human health* as it prevents human exposure to contaminated groundwater. *The environment is protected* through the soil removal and recovery of the free oil (by removing the source of contamination, the amount of residual contamination available to aquatic and terrestrial receptors is expected to continue to decrease). Long-term monitoring will allow EPA and Maine DEP to know whether the remedy is appropriate. Both alternatives EPA evaluated rely on the restrictive covenant and long-term monitoring.

Both alternatives include a TI waiver of drinking water standards for the area identified as the TI zone (See Figure 1) and would *comply with all other identified Federal and State regulations*. PCB and VOC levels outside the TI zone are currently below EPA's standards but at times are slightly above Maine's standards. However, as the concentrations have decreased following the 1997 soil removal action, and active and passive oil recovery will continue, it is anticipated that the Maine standard will be met outside the TI zone in five to ten years. EPA anticipates that active recovery of the oil will more quickly lower the PCB and VOC concentrations in the TI area than just the passive recovery. However, it is likely that at the conclusion of active recovery the dissolved concentrations will still be above the drinking water standards. Because EPA is proposing to waive federal and state drinking water standards for a portion of the site, EPA is seeking comment from the public.

The *long-term protection criterion* would be met by both alternatives EPA evaluated. The 1997 removal of the contaminated soils from the site eliminated several risks exposure scenarios. The restrictive covenant which runs with the property will remain in effect until Maine DEP lifts them and the monitoring will continue as long as the PCB and VOC concentrations remain above drinking water quality.

Both alternatives would include the removal of residual oil. Alternative 1 would remove the oil as it moves under natural conditions into monitoring wells, whereas Alternative 2 would also employ a pumping system to increase the rate of the recovery. Using active recovery, the bulk of the residual oil will be removed much more quickly than relying on natural conditions. Therefore Alternative 2 *would reduce the toxicity, mobility, and the volume of PCBs through treatment.*

Both alternatives meet the *short-term effectiveness* criterion. The implementation of institutional controls reduces site risks from groundwater quickly. The only remedial actions are the long-

term monitoring and the oil recovery, both of which have been ongoing for years, and the sampling crews follow health and safety procedures. Operation of the oil recovery requires the disposal of the oil and the absorbent materials.

Both alternatives can be *implemented*. The materials and equipment needed for maintenance of the site, long-term monitoring, and oil recovery are all available.

In evaluating the alternatives for *costs*, EPA notes that the net present worth has been calculated for thirty years, following EPA guidance, whereas it is the expectation of all parties that the clean-up activities will last considerably longer. The net present worth of Alternatives 1 and 2 are \$622,000 and \$1,055,000, respectively.

Do the Alternatives Meet the Nine Evaluation Criteria?		
The Nine Criteria	Alternative 1: institutional controls, long-term monitoring, passive oil recovery	Alternative 2: institutional controls, long-term monitoring, active and passive oil recovery
1. Protects human health and the environment	yes	yes
2. Meets federal and state requirements	yes, with TI waiver for groundwater for a portion of the site	yes, with TI waiver for groundwater for a portion of the site
3. Provides long-term protection	yes	yes
4. Reduces toxicity, mobility, and volume through treatment	no	yes
5. Provides short-term protection	yes	yes
6. Implementable (can it be built?)	yes	yes
7. Cost	\$622,000	\$1,055,000
8. State acceptance	to be determined	
9. Public acceptance	to be determined after public comment period	
Time Frame for attaining groundwater standards	several decades, potentially hundreds of years	several decades, potentially hundreds of years

Why EPA Recommends Institutional Controls, Long-Term Monitoring, Active and Passive Oil Recovery

EPA recommends institutional controls, long-term monitoring, active and passive oil recovery for the following reasons:

- ! With institutional controls and the TI waiver, this alternative meets the first two criteria, and provides both short-term and long-term protection;
- ! With the active recovery of oil, the majority of the mass of residual oil will be more quickly removed from the environment. While this action is not expected by itself to reach drinking water standards within a reasonable period of time, it is expected to allow the groundwater to approach these standards more quickly. In addition active recovery further reduces the long-term risk of contamination moving through the bedrock to Riggs Brook.
- ! Although there appears to be a large difference in costs for the two alternatives, these costs have been calculated based on thirty years and it is anticipated that the remedy will continue considerably longer. It is also anticipated that the active recovery of oil will not continue for thirty years, yet it is hoped that the active recovery will shorten the time period for groundwater restoration and thereby require less long-term monitoring compared to Alternative 1; and
- ! While the public comment period has not begun, Maine DEP has tentatively indicated that this alternative will be acceptable to the State.

For More Detailed Information

This proposed plan provides only a summary of the technical information available concerning the F. O'Connor site. All of the technical reports and public information fact sheets that have been

produced related to the site are available at the following Information Repositories:

Maine DEP
Ray Building
Hospital Street Augusta, Maine 04333
(207) 287-2651
Hours: (by appointment)
Mon - Thurs: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

EPA Records Center
1 Congress Street, Suite 1100
Boston, MA 02114-2023
(617) 918-1453
Hours: 10 a.m.-noon
2 p.m.-5 p.m.

Lithgow Public Library
45 Winthrop Street
Augusta, Maine 04330-5542
(207) 626-2415
Hours: Tues - Wed: noon to 8 p.m.
Thurs: 8 a.m. to noon
Fri: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sat: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Next Steps

By the end of July 2002, EPA expects to have reviewed all comments received on this proposed plan and the technical documents. EPA will prepare a document called the Responsiveness Summary which is a written response to all comments received during the public comment period. EPA will then prepare the Amended Record of Decision for signature by late September 2002. Both the Responsiveness Summary and Amended ROD will be made available to the public at the information repositories listed above. EPA will announce the decision through the local news media and the community mailing list.

Following the signing of the ROD amendment, EPA and Central Maine Power will then work to amend the Consent Decree, the legal document which defines the responsibilities of each party and the legal basis for carrying out the revised clean-up plan.

What is a Formal Comment?

During the 30-day public comment period from June 19, 2002 to July 19, 2002, EPA will accept formal written comments and hold a public hearing near the end of the 30-day period. EPA uses this public input to improve the cleanup proposal.

To make a **formal** comment you need only speak during the public hearing on July 9, 2002, or submit a comment postmarked by July 19, 2002.

While EPA considers input from the community throughout site investigations and cleanup, **EPA is required to respond in writing only to significant formal comments submitted during the public comment period regarding the proposed cleanup plan.**

Upon completion of the formal comment portion of the public hearing on July 9, 2002 EPA will discuss the cleanup proposal with meeting participants and answer questions. EPA will review the transcript of all formal comments received at the hearing and all written comments received during the formal comment period before making a final cleanup decision. EPA will then prepare a written response to all significant formal written and oral comments.

Your input and ideas will become part of the official public record. The transcript of comments and EPA's written responses will be issued in a document called a ***Responsiveness Summary*** when EPA releases the final cleanup decision. Once complete, the Responsiveness Summary will be available at the Lithgow Public Library for review.

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Penalty for Private Use
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Use This Space to Write Your Comments

or to be added to the mailing list

EPA encourages you to provide your written comments and ideas about the cleanup options under consideration for dealing with the contamination at the O'Connor Superfund Site. You can use the form below to send written comments. If you have questions about how to comment, please call ***EPA Remedial Project Manager Terry Connelly at (617) 918-1373***. Please mail this form or additional sheets of written comments, postmarked no later than July 19, 2002, to:

Terrence Connelly
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region I, (HBT)
1 Congress Street, Suite 1100
Boston, MA 02114 - 2023
or E-Mail to: connelly.terry@epa.gov

(Attach sheets as needed)
Comment Submitted by:

Mailing list additions, deletions or changes

If you did not receive this through the mail and would like to

" be added to the site mailing list

Name : _____

" note a change of address

Address: _____

" be deleted from the mailing list

Please check the appropriate box and fill in the correct address information above.

**O'Connor Superfund Site
Public Comment Sheet (cont....)**

Fold, staple, stamp, and mail-----

Place
Stamp
Here

**Terrence Connelly
Remedial Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region I (HBT)
1 Congress Street, Suite 1100
Boston, MA 02114 -2023**